

LETTER OF INTENT TO APPLY FOR PROJECT GRANT
Under Title III of the Older Americans Act
Fiscal Year July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026
Summary Sheet

Applicant Agency: HRDC, District IX

Mailing/Street Address: 32 South Tracy
City, State, Zip: Bozeman, MT 59715
Phone: 406-587-4486

Compliance Director: Hannah Altman
Transportation Director: Sunshine Ross
E-Mail: haltman@thehrdc.org; sross@thehrdc.org

Type of Organization: City County Private Non-Profit Other (specify):

Geographic area to be served: Gallatin and Park Counties

List services to be provided:	Estimated # of unduplicated persons to be served during project period for each services type:	Estimated # of unduplicated units of service during project period for each listed service type:
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Homemaker Program	Gallatin County	Units of service
Homemaker – Personal Care	20	1200 hours
Respite Services	5	300 hours
Homemaker Program	Park County	
Homemaker – Personal Care	20	1000 hours
Respite Services	10	500 hours
Galavan	Gallatin County	
Para Transit Services	300	17,500 rides
RSVP	Gallatin and Park Counties	
Volunteer Opportunities	150	22,000 hours
SHIP/I&A	Gallatin and Park Counties	
	300	375 units of service
Senior Reach	Gallatin and Park Counties	
	55	220 units of service

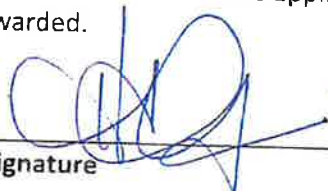
Applicant agrees that the project described in this Letter of Intent will be operational July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 and certifies that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the information in this application is true and correct and the attached conditions will be complied with if the grant is awarded.

Heather Grenier

Type or print person authorized to sign

President/CEO

Title


Signature

March 25, 2025
Date

Linda Young

Type or print person authorized to sign

Board Chair

Title


Signature

March 25, 2025
Date

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Under Title III of the Older Americans Act
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Project Description Sheet

1. Service or Project Name: RSVP of Southwest Montana

2. Provide a description of how your program will spend the Title III funding.

RSVP of Southwest Montana provides meaningful volunteer opportunities for individuals 55 and older to meet community needs in Gallatin and Park Counties. Funding will be used to support 150 senior volunteers contributing 22,000 hours at 35 local organizations. Funding is needed for salaries, operating expenses and direct volunteer expenses including insurance, recognition, meals and travel. COVID greatly impacted our senior volunteers – many workstations canceled volunteer opportunities and many volunteers were not comfortable in public places resulting in a significant reduction in our numbers. We are seeing increased involvement and forecast numbers to steadily increase.

3. Statement of how your project will coordinate services with other community programs. (Include a description of referral systems.)

Community partnerships have been built since the RSVP program began in 1972. Workstations including non-profit, educational, veteran, community and faith-based organizations are selected on the basis of their need and their ability to support conditions outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding. RSVP supports senior volunteers contributing local non profit, healthcare and government organizations.

In meeting those needs, RSVP concentrates volunteer placement in five focus areas. 1) Capacity Building assists organizations in increasing their operational effectiveness; 2) Economic Opportunity address unmet needs of economically disadvantaged individuals, including financial literacy, affordable housing, and employment related assistance; 3) Healthy Futures addresses unmet health needs, including access to health care, increasing physical activity and improving nutrition, and increasing seniors' ability to remain in their own homes; 4) Veterans and Military Families addresses needs of veterans, members of the armed forces and family members of deployed military personnel; and 5) other Community Priorities are determined by those qualified organizations.

For fiscal year 2023-2024 RSVP volunteers served in the following focus areas:

1. Capacity Building – 56 volunteers served 12,349 hours at 7 organizations
2. Economic Opportunity – 3 volunteers served 271 hours at 2 organizations
3. Healthy Futures -
 - i. Access to Care – 5 volunteers served 285 hours at 3 organizations
 - ii. Aging in Place – 56 volunteers served 3764 hours at 8 organizations
 - iii. Nutrition and Food – 43 volunteers served 4199 hours at 5 organizations
4. Veterans and Military Families – 1 volunteer served 589 hours to 1 organization
5. Other Community Priorities – 37 volunteers served 3367 hours at 16 organizations

In addition to the workstations, RSVP collaborates with business partners, donors, city and county governments, other Senior Corps programs, and groups that promote senior issues and the spirit of volunteerism. RSVP offices are located in the Bozeman Senior Center, Market Place (Bozeman) and HRDC Office (Livingston) which allows for ongoing communication with seniors and different programs.

4. Statement of how your project will fulfill the mission of the Older Americans Act. (Include a description of criteria for selection of clients, outreach and targeting activities and how the project fulfills the objectives of the Older Americans Act.)

RSVP focuses on meeting the needs of both the volunteers and community organizations. The only eligibility requirement for volunteers is being 55 or older. A community organization needs to be a public agency, private non-profit or a proprietary health care agency and must accept responsibility for volunteer assignment and supervision of RSVP volunteers as outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding. The community needs are determined by the needs of the workstations seeking volunteers as well as through a Community Needs Assessment conducted by HRDC.

RSVP focuses outreach and builds public awareness through its volunteers, workstations, various media (Internet –www.thehrdc.org - brochures, email, flyers, local newspapers - Bozeman Daily Chronicle and Livingston Enterprise and senior publications – Prime Time News), participation in local health fairs, staff involvement in community committees, and Advisory Council members.

RSVP supports the goals of the Older Americans Act by empowering seniors to live meaningful, independent, and dignified lives in their own homes and communities for as long as possible. Studies have shown that volunteering benefits the health and well-being of volunteers. However, older adults with low incomes and limited education—who are already at risk for poor health outcomes—often face barriers that prevent them from participating. As a result, these individuals may miss out on the positive effects of volunteering, while communities lose the valuable contributions they could make. Programs like RSVP play a vital role in promoting civic engagement by providing access, structure, and financial support. This enables at-risk individuals aged 55 and older to lead happier, healthier lives while making a meaningful impact in their communities.

Key Metrics – RSVP (23-24)

- 1. How many clients are you serving?** 172 volunteers and 33 organizations;
- 2. Who are they?** Volunteers are individuals 55 and older; organizations must be non-profit, government, or healthcare;
- 3. What services do you give them?** 172 volunteers contributed 24,827 hours to 33 organizations
- 4. What does it cost?** \$138,530
- 5. What does it cost per service delivered?** \$138,530 divided by 24,827 volunteer hours = \$5.58 per volunteer hour of service
- 6. What happens to the clients as a result of the service?** *Volunteers* report that being a volunteer: adds purpose to my life; helps me feel like I make a difference; keeps me engaged socially and helps me stay active. *Organizations* report using RSVP volunteers: allows more time for staff to accomplish other tasks; better service for clients; and capability to accomplish the organization's goals
- 7. What does it cost per outcome?** \$138,530/172 volunteers = \$805/per volunteer/per year

Volunteer Story: Interview with RSVP volunteer Arlene, age 85.

Where do you volunteer? Loaves and Fishes, Spay and Neuter. I also have volunteered at the annual Livingston Thanksgiving dinner hosted by the Elks Club.

Did you have a career before you became a volunteer? I was a RN in home healthcare, make up artist and I owned a house keeping business.

Why and how did you start volunteering? I was taught to help others by my father. When I was a child, before we were allowed to play outside, we had to ask our elderly neighbors if they needed any help with yard or house work. When my daughter was growing up, I always volunteered in the school, community and our church. So, when I stopped working,

volunteering just came naturally for me.

How do you feel, you impacted people's lives? When I cook at Loaves and Fishes it is a nice feeling to know that I am feeding hungry folks. When I help out for the community Thanksgiving and Christmas dinner, I feel like I am giving back to the community, and everyone is so grateful to be there.

Submitted by Lisa Wesley RSVP Coordinator. Park County MT

5. **If extra funding was available, what would you do to increase services and how would you plan to spend the money?**
Additional funds would be used to increase hours for part time coordinators.
6. **Please provide letters of support from other local community-based and/or institutional programs, agencies or organizations involved with older adults.**
See attached letters of support
7. **List wage range of all employees funded in full or in part by this contract:** \$25.00- \$50.00
8. **Project unit cost: Unit of Service Cost**
\$138,530/172 volunteers = \$805/per volunteer/year
\$138,530 divided by 24,827 volunteer hours = \$5.58 per volunteer hour of service
9. **Is this project covered by liability insurance?** Yes
How much? \$4,000,000 (General) \$2,000,000 (Professional Liability)
10. **How many years has this project received Title III funding:** 18 years

**Please provide a detailed estimated budget for this Title III service for the fiscal year 2025-2026 as follows
(list appropriate estimated resources):**

Expenses	4/1/25-3/31/26	Resources	4/1/25-3/31/26
Personnel and fringe	\$99,869.00	Area IV Funds	\$5000.00
Admin	\$17,522.00	Other: CNCS	\$86,161.00
Office Supplies	\$2520.00	In Kind (City of Bozeman)	\$11,985.00
In Kind (Space)	\$11,985.00	Other: Local Donations	\$35,500.00
Communications	\$2000.00	Other: Gallatin County	\$11,000.00
Travel/Training	\$4000.00		
Office Space	\$5000.00		
Other:	\$50.00		
Volunteer Insurance	\$1200.00		
Volunteer Travel	\$250.00		
Volunteer Meals	\$250.00		
Volunteer Recognition	\$5,000.00		
TOTAL	\$149,646.00	TOTAL	\$149,646.00



206 S Main St
Livingston, Mt 59047
(406) 333-2490

March 4th, 2025

Jim Marks, Program Director
RMDC Area IV Agency on Aging
PO Box 1717
Helena, Mt 59624-1717

Mr. Marks,

I am writing in support of the Retired Senior Volunteer Program of Livingston.

Continued funding for this vital program is essential to the senior community here in Livingston. The services that seniors provide through this program are a significant factor in the ongoing success of our Meals on Wheels initiative. Without RSVP volunteers, we would struggle to deliver our meals effectively.

I have received feedback from many of our clients about how much they appreciate the RSVP volunteers who not only deliver their meals but also take the time to socialize with them.

Similarly, many RSVP volunteers have shared their enjoyment in delivering meals and interacting with our clients. I urge you to continue your support and funding for this essential service to the senior community in Livingston.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tabatha Streuly', written over a horizontal line.

Tabatha Streuly
Executive Director
Livingston Meals on Wheels

Bozeman Senior Center

"Focusing on the opportunities of positive aging."

March 24, 2025

Jim Marks
Area IV Agency on Aging
PO Box 721
Helena, MT 59624

I strongly encourage continued funding for the RSVP Program through HRDC. As an Executive Director working in various senior centers throughout my career, I have seen first-hand how vital volunteers are to the programs and services we provide. In fact, without the assistance and contributions of volunteers, our programs simply would not be able to sustain themselves.

We rely on volunteers to deliver meals-on-wheels, help in the kitchen, assist at our front desk, serve on the Board of Directors, provide foot care...and the list goes on and on from there. The Bozeman Senior Center has over 250 volunteers that contribute hours and hours of time helping to make our center successful. Many of our volunteers are also RSVP volunteers.

RSVP provides older adults with the opportunity to make meaningful connections and contributions within our community. The social interactions and connections are so vital to the health and well-being of all people, but especially older individuals. This program allows seniors to have influence not only in their own lives, but most importantly, in the lives of others.

Sincerely,

Shannon Bondy; Executive Director
Bozeman Senior Center
807 North Tracy Avenue
(406) 586-2421
shannon@bozemanseniorcenter.org